

Claims

1. A method of providing a telecommunication service, the method comprising:

5 receiving, at a telephone network switch, a telephone number for accessing the telecommunication service for a subscriber, the telephone number provided by a calling party within a first local access and transport area;

10 determining an interexchange carrier associated with the subscriber;

initiating, via the interexchange carrier, a first telephone call between the calling party and a server which serves the subscriber, the server within a second local access and transport area other than the first local access and transport area;

15 using the server to provide a subscriber menu to the calling party in the first telephone call, the subscriber menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family and a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence;

20 receiving a selection of one of the destination options from the calling party;

initiating a second telephone call between the server and a telephone number corresponding to the selection; and

25 connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone call.

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2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing information absent in the first telephone call to pass
a privacy manager device associated with the telephone number for
the second telephone call.

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3. The method of claim 1 wherein the subscriber menu
further provides a third destination option for a second member of
the family at a second location other than the residence.

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4. The method of claim 1 wherein the residence is located
within the second local access and transport area.

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5. The method of claim 1 wherein the second destination
option has a telephone number within a third local access and
transport area other than the first local access and transport area
and the second local access and transport area, wherein the selection
is of the second destination option, and wherein the second
telephone call is carried by the interexchange carrier.

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a database for determining an interexchange carrier associated with a subscriber of the telecommunication service;

a telephone network switch to receive a telephone number for accessing the telecommunication service for the subscriber, the telephone number provided by a calling party within a first local access and transport area other than a second local access and transport area of the server, the telephone network switch responsive to the database to initiate, via the interexchange carrier, a first telephone call between the calling party and the server;

15 wherein the server is to provide a subscriber menu to the calling party in the first telephone call, the subscriber menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family and a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence;

20 wherein the server is to receive a selection of one of the
destination options from the calling party and to initiate a second
telephone call between the server and a telephone number
corresponding to the selection; and

wherein the server is to connect the first telephone call and the
25 second telephone call.

8. The system of claim 6 wherein the subscriber menu further provides a third destination option for a second member of the family at a second location other than the residence.

9. The system of claim 6 wherein the residence is located within the second local access and transport area.

10. The system of claim 6 wherein the second destination option has a telephone number within a third local access and transport area other than the first local access and transport area and the second local access and transport area, wherein the selection is of the second destination option, and wherein the second telephone call is carried by the interexchange carrier.

receiving, at a telephone network switch, a telephone number for accessing the telecommunication service for a subscriber, the telephone number provided by a calling party within a first local access and transport area;

using the server to provide a subscriber menu to the calling party in the first telephone call, the subscriber menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family and a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, wherein the residence is within the first local access and transport area, and wherein the first location is within a second local access and transport area other than the first local access and transport area;

determining an interexchange carrier associated with the subscriber;

connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone call.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
providing information absent in the first telephone call to pass
a privacy manager device associated with the telephone number for
the second telephone call.

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13. The method of claim 11 wherein the subscriber menu
further provides a third destination option for a second member of
the family at a second location other than the residence.

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a server to serve in providing the telecommunication service to a subscriber, the server within a first local access and transport area;

a telephone network switch to receive a telephone number for accessing the telecommunication service for the subscriber, the telephone number provided by a calling party within the first local access and transport area, the telephone network switch to initiate a first telephone call between the calling party and the server;

wherein the server is to provide a subscriber menu to the calling party in the first telephone call, the subscriber menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family and a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, wherein the residence is within the first local access and transport area, wherein the first location is within a second local access and transport area other than the first local access and transport area;

wherein the server receives a selection of the second destination option from the calling party, and initiates, via the interexchange carrier indicated by the database, a second telephone call between the server and a telephone number corresponding to the selection; and

wherein the server is to connect the first telephone call and the second telephone call.

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15. The system of claim 14 further comprising:
a privacy manager device associated with the telephone
number for the second telephone call;

5 wherein the second telephone call provides information absent
in the first telephone call to pass the privacy manager device.

16. The system of claim 14 wherein the subscriber menu
further provides a third destination option for a second member of
the family at a second location other than the residence.

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17. A method of providing a telecommunication service, the
method comprising:

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15 providing a menu in a first telephone call, the menu providing
a plurality of destination options including a first destination option
for a residence of a family, a second destination option for a first
member of the family at a first location other than the residence, and
a third destination option for a second member of the family at a
second location other than the residence;

20 receiving a first selection of one of the destination options in
the first telephone call;

initiating a second telephone call to a telephone number
corresponding to the first selection; and

connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone
call.

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18. The method of claim 17 wherein the plurality of destination options further includes a fourth destination option for the first member of the family at a third location other than the residence, the first location, and the second location.

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19. The method of claim 17 wherein the second destination option is for a mobile telephone.

20. The method of claim 17 further comprising:
10 after connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone call, receiving an input from the calling party in the first telephone call; and

after receiving the input:

15 disconnecting the first telephone call from the second telephone call;
receiving a second selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call; and
initiating a third telephone call to a telephone number corresponding to the second selection.

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21. The method of claim 20 further comprising:
connecting the third telephone call and the first telephone call.

22. An apparatus comprising:

a server to provide a menu in a first telephone call, the menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family, a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, and a third destination option for a second member of the family at a second location other than the residence;

the server to receive a first selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call, to initiate a second telephone call to a telephone number corresponding to the first selection, and to connect the first telephone call and the second telephone call.

23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the plurality of destination options further includes a fourth destination option for the first member of the family at a third location other than the residence, the first location, and the second location.

24. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the second destination option is for a mobile telephone.

25. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the server, after connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone call, is to receive an input from the calling party in the first telephone call, and after receiving the input, the server is to disconnect the first telephone call from the second telephone call, to receive a second selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call, and to initiate a third telephone call to a telephone number corresponding to the second selection.

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29. The computer-readable medium of claim 27 wherein the second destination option is for a mobile telephone.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 27 wherein the contents further cause the server, after connecting the first telephone call and the second telephone call, to receive an input from the calling party in the first telephone call, and after receiving the input,
5 to disconnect the first telephone call from the second telephone call, to receive a second selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call, and to initiate a third telephone call to a telephone number corresponding to the second selection.

10 31. The computer-readable medium of claim 30 wherein the contents further cause the server to connect the third telephone call and the first telephone call.

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providing a menu in a first telephone call, the menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family, a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, and a third destination option for a second member of the family at a second location other than the residence;

receiving a first selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call;

initiating a second telephone call to a first telephone number corresponding to the first selection;

determining that the second telephone call is unanswered;

receiving a second selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call;

initiating a third telephone call to a second telephone number corresponding to the second selection; and

connecting the first telephone call and the third telephone call.

a server to provide a menu in a first telephone call, the menu
 ding a plurality of destination options including a first

the server to receive a first selection of one of the destination options in the first telephone call, to initiate a second telephone call

10 to a first telephone number corresponding to the first selection, to
determine that the second telephone call is unanswered, to receive a
second selection of one of the destination options in the first
telephone call, to initiate a third telephone call to a second telephone
number corresponding to the second selection, and to connect the
15 first telephone call and the third telephone call.

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providing a menu in a first telephone call, the menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family, a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, and a broadcast option;

10 substantially simultaneously initiating a second telephone call to a first telephone number corresponding to the first destination option and a third telephone call to a second telephone number corresponding to the second destination option;

connecting the first telephone call and the one of the second telephone call and the third telephone call.

36. An apparatus comprising:

a server to provide a menu in a first telephone call, the menu providing a plurality of destination options including a first destination option for a residence of a family, a second destination option for a first member of the family at a first location other than the residence, and a broadcast option;

the server responsive to a selection of the broadcast option in the first telephone call to substantially simultaneously initiate a second telephone call to a first telephone number corresponding to the first destination option and a third telephone call to a second telephone number corresponding to the second destination option, to determine that one of the second telephone call and the third telephone call is answered, and to connect the first telephone call and the one of the second telephone call and the third telephone call.

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